

**REMARKS**

Claims 1-52 are all the claims pending in the application.

Claims 24, 25, 28, 29, 32, 33, 40, 42 and 45-52 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph. Claims 1-23, 26, 27, 30, 31, 34-39, 41, 43 and 44 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a).

In a telephone conversation on August 19, 2004, the Examiner confirmed that that Claims 24, 25, 28, 29, 32, 33, 40, 42 and 45-52 are also objected as being dependent on a rejected base claim but would be allowable if rewritten to include of the limitations of claims from which each depends.

In the Amendment, Claims 1-23, 26, 27, 30, 31, 34-39, 41, 43 and 44 have been canceled and Claims 24-25, 28-29, 32-33, 40, 42 and 45-52 have been amended. In Claims 24-25, 28-29, 32-33, 40, 42 and 45-52, the word "type" after "adipate" has been deleted. In addition, these claims were amended to recite the subject matter of the base claims from which they depend, as well as the intervening claims. As amended, Claims 24, 25, 28 and 29 are independent claims. Claims 40 and 45 depend from Claim 24, Claims 42 and 46 depend from Claim 25, Claims 32 and 47 depend from Claim 28, and Claims 33 and 48 depend from Claim 29. Claims 51, 52, 49 and 50 depend from Claims 40, 42, 32 and 33, respectively.

At page 2, paragraph 2 of the Office Action, Claims 24, 25, 28, 29, 32, 33, 40, 42 and 45-52 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph, as allegedly being indefinite for failing

to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which applicant regards as the invention.

It is asserted that the word “type” in Claims 24, 25, 28, 29, 32, 33, 40, 42 and 45-52 makes these claims indefinite.

As indicated above, the term “type” has been deleted from Claims 24, 25, 28, 29, 32, 33, 40, 42 and 45-52. Accordingly, Applicants submit that the § 112 rejection be reconsidered and withdrawn.

At page 2, paragraph 3 of the Office Action, Claims 1-23, 26, 27, 30, 31, 34-39, 41, 43 and 44 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103.

Applicants submit that in view of the cancellation of these claims the § 103 rejection is moot.

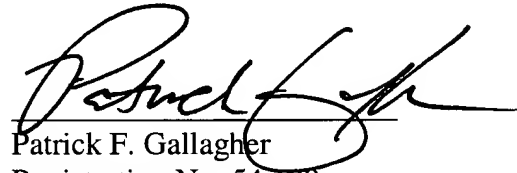
In view of the above, reconsideration and allowance of this application are now believed to be in order, and such actions are hereby solicited. If any points remain in issue which the Examiner feels may be best resolved through a personal or telephone interview, the Examiner is kindly requested to contact the undersigned at the telephone number listed below.

AMENDMENT UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.111  
U.S. Application No. 09/976,011

Q66612

The USPTO is directed and authorized to charge all required fees, except for the Issue Fee and the Publication Fee, to Deposit Account No. 19-4880. Please also credit any overpayments to said Deposit Account.

Respectfully submitted,

  
Patrick F. Gallagher  
Registration No. 54,109

SUGHRUE MION, PLLC  
Telephone: (202) 293-7060  
Facsimile: (202) 293-7860

WASHINGTON OFFICE

**23373**

CUSTOMER NUMBER

Date: September 29, 2004